

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1, 36, 38-39 and 41-53 are pending and rejected in the application. Claims 1, 36 and 39 have been amended. No new matter has been added

On page 3, the Official Action rejects claims 1 and 35-53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gabber (US 5,961,593) in view of Wootton (US 6,128,298). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

**... electronic equipment related information for
accessing the electronic equipment with a first
address of the electronic equipment identifier ...**

**... storing the electronic equipment identifier
based on a second address of the index
information ...**

**... obtaining the electronic equipment identifier
based on the index information as the second
address ...**

**... accesses the electronic equipment related
information based on the stored electronic
equipment identifier as the first address ...**

Claim 1 relates to a first address (i.e. an electronic equipment identifier) and a second address (i.e. an index information). Specifically, in a server, the first address is stored in memory based on the second address (e.g. the second address points to the memory location where the first address is stored). In operation, electronic equipment transmits the second address to the server. Based on receiving the second address, the server is able to obtain the first address (already stored in memory) and thereby access the electronic equipment. Support for this feature can be at least found in Fig. 18 and furthermore, on pages 38 and 39 of Applicants' specification. No new matter has been added.

On page 4, the Official Action states that Gabber's system transmits a substitute identifier to the central proxy system 110a (see col. 13, lines 30-40). Thus, the Examiner is interpreting Gabber's substitute identifier as Applicants' "index information" recited in claim 1. Furthermore, the Examiner is interpreting Gabber's central proxy system 110a as Applicants' "server device" recited in claim 1.

In Gabber's system, when the substitute identifier is sent to the proxy server 110a, then the substitute identifier is utilized to access computer 105a (computer 105a does not trust proxy server 110a and therefore, does not provide information other than the substitute identifier to proxy 110a). Thus, the substitute identifier is the only address utilized by the proxy system 110a to access home computer 105a (the substitute identifier is not utilized to obtain the actual address of the computer). Thus, Gabber's system does not access a first address based on a second address (Gabber only suggests a single address).

Furthermore, col. 13 of Gabber suggests that the substitute ID is computed based on the user's ID. Thus, when the substitute ID is transmitted in Gabber's system, the system is vulnerable to attacks (the user ID may be obtained by intercepting the substitute ID).

Applicants' claim 1 is different than the art of record because a first address which is stored in the server based on a second address, is accessed when the second address is received "... *electronic equipment related information for accessing the electronic equipment with a first address of the electronic equipment identifier ... storing the electronic equipment identifier based on a second address of the index information ... obtaining the electronic equipment identifier based on the index information as the second address ... accesses the electronic equipment related information based on the stored electronic equipment identifier as the first address*").

As shown in Fig. 18, Applicants' server includes a stored electronic equipment identifier (first address) and a stored index information (second address). In one example, the location in memory which the first address is stored is based on the value of the second address.

For example, as shown in Applicants' Fig. 1, server 14 may be connected through network 13 to electronic equipment 11. Server 14 may store electronic equipment identifier 11 based on the index information. In operation, when the electronic equipment 11 transmits the index information to server 14, the index information may be utilized to access the stored electronic equipment identifier (the second address of the index information is utilized to access the first address of the electronic equipment identifier). The electronic equipment identifier obtained by server 14 may then be utilized to access electronic equipment 11 through the network.

This feature is at least supported on page 39 of Applicants' specification (*"electronic equipment forms packet ... containing index information and sends it to the server device. Next, the server device receives send information. Then, the server device obtains index information from the send information and obtains an electronic equipment identifier having the value of the index information as an address from the electronic equipment identifier index correspondence management section ... the server device can access the electronic equipment related information by using the index information"*).

By storing the secret information (i.e. the electronic equipment identifier) based on an index information only useful to the server, a device intercepting the transmitted index information would not be able to access the electronic equipment. Specifically, the index information (which may be a memory location within the server device where the electronic equipment identifier is stored) is only useful to the server device. This process ensures that the server device 14 is the only device that can access electronic equipment 11.

Wootton is relied upon for storing electronic equipment information for accessing electronic equipment. Wootton, however, does not make up for the deficiencies of Gabber. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Independent claims 36 and 39 have similar features to claim 1. Thus, independent claims 36 and 39 are also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

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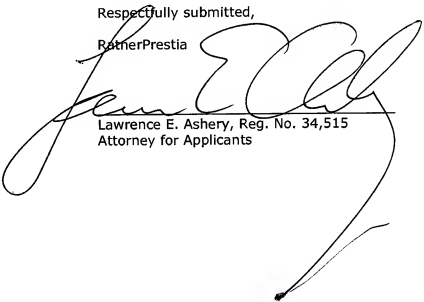
MAT-8680US

Dependent claims 38 and 41-53 include all of the features of the claims from which they depend. Thus, these claims are also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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